

2018
SYLLABUS

Instructor:
Ms. Raven S. Jackson
Science Department Educator
Environmental Science



Butler High School
2011 Lumpkin Road
Augusta, Georgia 30906

School Mission: Educating & Empowering Tomorrow's Self Sufficient Citizens

This syllabus is subject to change at any time throughout the school year. Necessary syllabus amendments will be made by the instructor and students will be notified in a timely manner. Please be sure to document any changes to the hard-copy, as this is a digital and revisable document. Students will be held accountable for changes to the syllabus.

Welcome Letter

Hello!! My name is Ms. Jackson. I am a 2013 graduate of Spelman College with a degree in Biology and I am currently working on my Masters degree in Biomedical Sciences. The passion of my life is ministry—sharing and preaching the Gospel. I best describe myself as a woman after God’s own heart, called for such a time as this. I love reading, writing, working out, shopping, spending time with my family, and going to church.

Butler High School has recently hired me to join their Science Department — a great team of educators, in order to decrease the amount of students in each class. This year, I will be teaching Environmental Science and Chemistry. I am so excited to meet you, and elated to be given the opportunity to prayerfully encourage, mentor, and motivate you to achieve your dreams and be all you can be in this world. If at anytime you need to, please contact me at jacksra1@BOE.Richmond.k12.ga.us. I will also hold office hours on Tuesdays from 2:40pm-4:00pm. If you need help, tutoring, have questions, etc., feel free to stop by or set up an appointment.

Attached to this letter is a list of all rules, rituals, routines, consequences, materials, and expectations for my class. This information will also be posted on our class webpage along with all the necessary information you need to know for Environmental Science or Chemistry.

Lastly, my greatest desire for you as a student is to be well prepared, not just for exams, or for “next year,” but for the real world. I am here for you. I believe in you. I believe that you have a God-ordained destiny for greatness and it’s my desire to help you the best way I can to be what you were created to be in this world: a successful, positive role model.

Thank you in advance for giving me the opportunity to be a positive voice in your life. I am truly honored.

Sincerely,
Ms. Jackson

Instructor Contact Information

Email: jacksra1@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

Classroom: 136

Remind: Environmental Science Text Code: 81010

After School Hours: Tuesdays 2:40pm-4:00pm or by appointment

Students should keep all teacher-student contact professional and within the parameters of school/county/state/federal laws regarding such communications. Any violation will result in immediate administrative action and parent involvement. Please see the instructor for clarification or concerns regarding this issue.

General Course Information

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Environmental Science is an in-depth, yearlong course that is extensively performance, lab and field based. It integrates the study of many components of our environment, including the human impact on our planet. Instruction will focus on student data collection and analysis. Some concepts are global and will involve interpretation of global data sets from scientific sources. Chemistry, physics, mathematical, and technological concepts will be integrated throughout the course. Environmental Science has a final exam at the end of the year (SLO exam) that will count as a major test grade for the fourth nine weeks.

INSTRUCTIONAL PHILOSOPHY:

At Butler High School, we strive to provide a positive, challenging, safe environment that promotes the development of motivated, respectful, life-long learners who will be well prepared to succeed in a rapidly changing society. We also believe in the importance of the application of effective communication skills and believe that all faculty, parents, and students are an active learning community. I personally believe that an education will empower my students to become self-sufficient citizens.

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

The objective of this course is mastery of the GSE standards prescribed by the state for this course.

TEXTBOOK:

- Withgott – Pearson Environmental Science
- Teacher materials

REQUIRED CLASS MATERIALS:

2 inch Notebook

Folder

Notecards

5 Notebook Dividers

Paper

****AVID students will need to purchase 3 hole punch spiral notebook***

Pens and Pencils

Dry Erase Markers (optional)

Highlighters

Color Pencils

GRADING:

This course will include many tasks and assessments. The course will also include four countywide common assessments. At the conclusion of the course all Environmental Science students are required to take the final, which will count as a final test grade. Students are able to exempt the final if they have maintained an “A” (90 or above) average for the course and have missed no more than 6 days from class. For this course grades will be assigned as follows:

Class/Lab Work	60%
Homework	5%
Quizzes	10%
Tests	25%

Assessment OF and FOR Learning

Course/County Grading:

90-100	A
80-89	B
75-79	C
70-74	D
69 and Below	F

Course Nine Weeks Grading Scale:

The following will be used as the grading procedure for each grading quarter. All grades will be updated on a weekly basis using the online grading system, Infinite Campus (IC). In-class grade updates will be provided at the instructor’s discretion. Students are responsible for keeping track of all returned grades and assignments. If you have an issue with a grade, please speak with your instructor directly after class or schedule a time to meet and discuss the issue.

HOMEWORK:

Homework will be given on a weekly basis. Homework assignments are designed for practice and extensions of the learning activities in the classroom. Homework will be checked regularly and a grade assigned. **If all homework is completed and turned in on time, extra credit on test will be granted.** In accordance with RCSS policy, students will have 6 days to make-up any work missed during an excused absence.

CLASS RULES:

1. **NO PROFANITY, CURSING, or INAPPROPRIATE Discussions:** The usage of derogatory and profane language is prohibited. **Use of this kind of language will result in automatic write up and after school teacher detention.**
2. **PUT CELL PHONES AWAY.** Cell phones and other electronic devices and accessories are not allowed in the classroom. They are a distraction to the learning environment. Also, you may not charge your cell phone in my classroom.
3. **BE ON TIME.** I do enforce the tardy policy, and **consider students late to class if they are not in their assigned seats, working on the “Ticket at the Door” when the bell rings.** If you are tardy please come in quietly and take your seat.
4. **SIT IN YOUR ASSIGNED SEAT.** All students are expected to sit in the seat assigned to them where they will be most successful. Any necessary changes will be made.

5. If you are absent, please check the While You Were Out binder and class webpage for the information you missed.
6. **FOLLOW THE DRESS CODE.** I will enforce the dress code at all times. No exceptions.
7. **PASSES.** Instructional time is of great importance each day. Students are encouraged to use the restrooms prior to arriving to class or immediately after class. However, the student will be given 3 restroom passes per semester.
8. **COME TO CLASS PREPARED.** Bring your notebook, book, completed assignments, materials and a positive attitude with you to class daily. Make sure you keep up with your notebooks and materials. You will work hard to ensure your items are organized and neat, take pride in them. Any items left in the classroom will be placed in lost and found.
9. **DO YOUR OWN WORK, CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.** You all will collaborate together on certain tasks; however, all work submitted must be your own work and in your own words. Cheating will result in automatic Teacher Detention.

Media Center Policy: If there is an occasion where our class must visit the media center, you are expected to follow all classroom rules. Please walk swiftly, yet safely in a single-file line through the halls. Remain silent. Do not congregate or wait for a friend. Report to the media center immediately and sit where designated.

Food and Drink Policy: Students may not eat and/or drink in class. Must clean up after themselves.

Visitor Policy: There will be several occasions where our classroom will be visited by parents, college students, guest speakers, teachers, RCSS members, State representatives and the administration. During any visit, please ensure that you are in compliance with all classroom rules. Visitors are there to complete a task or observation, please do not use class time to engage in non-Physics/Forensic Science conversation with our visitors. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Emergency Procedure: We will practice such procedures throughout the school year. Please be aware of your responsibilities and role in keeping our school safe. Listed below are general instructions:

- Listen to your instructor at all times
- Remain silent
- Walk swiftly, yet safely in a single-file line through the halls
- DO NOT congregate or wait for a friend
- Take such situations seriously
- Meeting Location: to the left of the football field house – you must walk all the way to the fence and line up in a straight line. Your absence during roll call will result in a skip.

Substitute Policy: If there is an occasion where the instructor is absent from class, please follow all classroom rules, policies, and procedures listed above. Your instructor will also leave a detailed instruction list for your substitute, including your classroom assignments/activities for the day. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns during your class period while there is a substitute, please contact (email, call, or text) your instructor. All substitute assignments will be graded (as they will review previous knowledge – it'll be easy because you were engaged during previous instruction).

EXTRA HELP: I can be reached at jacksra1@BOE.richmond.k12.ga.us or called at the school at (706)796-4959. I do offer extra help for all students on Tuesdays, after school from 2:40-4:00pm. Students can come in on Tuesdays or set up an appointment with me by email. Please email me with any questions or concerns. My planning period is during 4th period every day (10:20am-11:10am)

GRADE RECOVERY:

Student success in this course is very important to me. Students will be offered grade recovery in certain circumstances. Grade recovery is an additional (but not unlimited) opportunity for students to demonstrate knowledge of a particular concept. More information will be given in applicable circumstances.

Awards and Honors:

- All students should strive for EXCELLENCE on a daily basis. Students may earn these honors/awards in Environmental Science:
 - Student of the Month
 - Class Leader
 - Highest Course Average
 - Most Improved Student

